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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES \$6,065 GRANT TO CITY OF URICH

U.S. Representative Ike Skelton visited the City Hall in Urich on Wednesday, August 10, 2005 to present the City a "Mock Check" representing a USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant in the amount of \$6,065. The funds were awarded to the City to purchase an early warning siren to be placed in operation later this year. Mayor Mel Stewart accepted the grant on behalf of the city. The grant represents 30% of the estimated cost of the siren, and the City will pick up the remainder.



"It is important that we meet the infrastructure needs of our communities throughout Missouri," said Senator Kit Bond. "I thank USDA for their partnership, and their commitment to the betterment of our communities."

Congressman Ike Skelton said "Missourians know from experience that early warning saves lives when severe weather and other emergencies strike. This USDA Rural Development grant will enable the City of Urich to install an early warning siren to protect local citizens and improve overall emergency preparedness."

Gregory C. Branum, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development, said, "USDA is happy to be able to assist the City with this early warning siren." Other officials attending from USDA were: Tim Rickabaugh, Area Specialist from Clinton, and Lois East, Rural Development Manager, Clinton. Branum added "Special thanks are extended to our federal elected officials including U.S. Senators Kit Bond and Jim Talent plus U.S. Representative Ike Skelton for making available federal monies for funding this kind of project."

Representing the City of Urich were: Mayor Mel Stewart, Alderman Olive Kay Wells, Alderman Barbara Puckett, Alderman Ronnie Wehmeyer and City Clerk Darla Conner.

For more information on USDA Rural Development programs, you may visit the web site at www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo or contact the local office at 1306 N. 2nd Street, Clinton, Mo. 64735 or calling 660-885-5567.

"Committed to the future of rural communities."

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